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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY U.S. FIRST CLASS MAIL**

I hereby certify that the attached correspondence is being deposited as U.S. First Class Mail this date with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

Date: May 14, 1998

By: Margaret E. Adams

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant:** Clinton O. Fruitman **Docket No.:** 29131.0217  
**Serial No.:** 09/008,148 **Art Unit:** NYA  
**Filed:** January 16, 1998 **Examiner:** NYA  
**Title:** METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
THE CHEMICAL MECHANICAL  
PLANARIZATION OF ELECTRONIC  
DEVICES

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The documents listed on the enclosed form PTO-1449 may be deemed material to the patentability of the claims of the captioned application and are made of record to assist in their examination. The Examiner is requested to fully consider each listed document and to independently ascertain its relevance.

The submission of this Statement is not a representation that a prior art search has been conducted or that no other information that may be material to the patentability of the claims of this application exists. Moreover, the submission of this Statement is not an admission that any of the listed documents constitutes prior art against the application claims. Applicants reserve the right to challenge the designation of any of the listed documents as prior art, and to take any appropriate action to antedate or otherwise remove any of the listed documents as a prior art reference against the application claims.

1. [ ] For each of the following items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, an English language translation of that item or a portion thereof or a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is attached to the front of the reference:
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2. [ ] For each of the following items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is incorporated in the specification of the above-identified application:
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3. [ x ] Any copy of the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not enclosed with this Information Disclosure Statement was previously cited by or submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in a prior application, U.S. Serial No. 08,662,678 filed on June 14, 1996.

4. [ x ] No fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:

- a. [ ] 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1), within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application.
- b. [ ] 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(2), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application.
- c. [ x ] 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits.

5. [ ] No fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance (where there has been no prior final action), and is accompanied by one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below.

6. [ ] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance (where there has been no prior final action):

- a. [ ] A check in the amount of \$240.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee.
- b. [ ] Charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 19-2814. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

7. [ ] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d), after the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance, whichever comes first, but before payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by:
- a. a certification pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9a. or 9b. below;
  - b. a petition requesting consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement; and
  - c. the petition fee set forth under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) which is paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.
8. [ ] A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:
- a. [ ] 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(3), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement may render at least one claim unpatentable and is accompanied by the attached Petition To Withdraw Application From Issue;
  - b. [ ] 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(5), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement is to be considered in a Continuation application upon abandonment of the instant application and is accompanied by the attached Petition To Withdraw Application From Issue.
  - c. [ ] The fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) is paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.
- 9.
- a. [ ] I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
  - b. [ ] I hereby certify that no item of information in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
- 10.
- a. [ ] A check in the amount of \$130.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i).
  - b. [ ] Charge the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) to Deposit Account No. 19-2814. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.
  - c. [ ] The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Information Disclosure Statement, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2814. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 14, 1998

  
Troy M. Schmelzer  
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